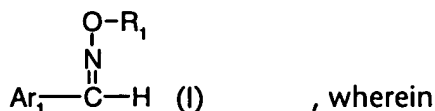


Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

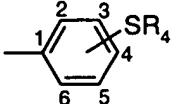
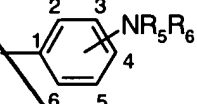
IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1-3 by replacement as follows:

A compound of the formula I

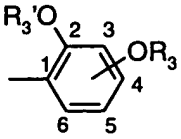


R_1 is C_4 - C_8 cycloalkanoyl, or C_1 - C_{12} alkanoyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more halogen, phenyl or CN; or R_1 is C_4 - C_6 alkenoyl, provided that the double bond is not conjugated with the carbonyl group; or R_1 is benzoyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halogen, CN, OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 ; or R_1 is C_2 - C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl; or phenoxycarbonyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more C_1 - C_6 alkyl or halogen;

Ar_1 is  or  each of which is optionally substituted 1 to 4 times

by halogen, C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, benzyl, OR_3 , SR_4 , SOR_4 , SO_2R_4 or NR_5R_6 , wherein the substituents OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings via the radicals R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and/or R_6 with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring; provided that

- (i) if SR_4 is 2- $\text{SC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, R_1 is not benzoyl;
- (ii) if SR_4 is 2- SCH_3 or 4- SCH_3 , R_1 is not 2-iodobenzoyl or 4-methoxybenzoyl;
- (iii) NR_5R_6 is not 4- $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ or 2-NHCO-phenyl;
- (iv) if NR_5R_6 is 2- NH_2 , 2-NHCOCH₃, 4-NHCOCH₃, 2-NHCOOCH₃, R_1 is not acetyl;
- (v) if NR_5R_6 is 4-NHCO-phenyl, R_1 is not benzoyl; and
- (vi) if NR_5R_6 is 4- $\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_2$, R_1 is not 3,5-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-hydroxybenzoyl;

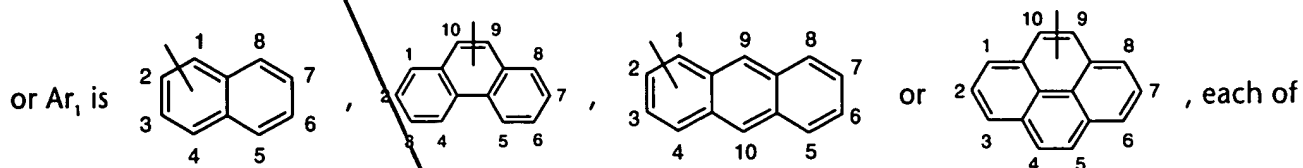
or Ar_1 is , optionally substituted 1 to 3 times by halogen, C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl,

benzyl, OR_3 , SOR_4 or SO_2R_4 , wherein the substituents OR_3 and/or OR_3' optionally form a 6-membered

ring *via* the radicals R_3 and/or R_3' with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring;

provided that

- (vii) if Ar_1 is 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, R_1 is not acetyl or benzoyl;
- (viii) if Ar_1 is 3,5-dibromo-2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, R_1 is not chloroacetyl; and
- (ix) if Ar_1 is 2,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 2-acetyloxy-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-diacetoxy-4-methylphenyl or 2,6-diacetoxy-4-acetoxymethylphenyl, R_1 is not acetyl;



which is unsubstituted or substituted 1 to 9 times by halogen, C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl; or each of which is substituted by phenyl or by phenyl which is substituted by one or more OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 ; or each of which is substituted by benzyl, benzoyl, C_2 - C_{12} alkanoyl; C_2 - C_{12} alkoxycarbonyl optionally interrupted by one or more -O- and/or optionally substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups; or each of which is substituted by phenoxycarbonyl, OR_3 , SR_4 , SOR_4 , SO_2R_4 or NR_5R_6 , wherein the substituents OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings *via* the radicals R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and/or R_6 with further substituents on the fused aromatic ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the fused aromatic ring;

provided that

- (x) Ar_1 is not 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-methoxy-1-naphthyl, 4-methoxy-1-naphthyl, 2-hydroxy-1-naphthyl, 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyl, 1,4-diacetyloxy-2-naphthyl, 1,4,5,8-tetramethoxy-2-naphthyl, 9-phenanthryl, 9-anthryl; and
- (xi) if Ar_1 is 10-(4-chlorophenylthio)-9-anthryl, R_1 is not pivaloyl;

or Ar_1 is benzoyl, naphthalenecarbonyl, phenanthrenecarbonyl, anthracenecarbonyl or pyrenecarbonyl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted 1 to 9 times by halogen, C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, phenyl, phenyl which is substituted by one or more OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 ; or each of which is substituted by benzyl, benzoyl, C_2 - C_{12} alkanoyl; C_2 - C_{12} alkoxycarbonyl optionally interrupted by one or more -O- and/or optionally substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups, phenoxycarbonyl, OR_3 , SR_4 , SOR_4 , SO_2R_4 or NR_5R_6 , wherein the substituents OR_3 , SR_4 and NR_5R_6 optionally form 5- or 6-

membered rings *via* the radicals R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and/or R_6 with further substituents on the fused aromatic ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the fused aromatic ring;

provided that

(xii) if Ar_1 is benzoyl, R_1 is not acetyl, benzoyl nor 4-methylbenzoyl;

(xiii) if Ar_1 is 4-benzoyloxybenzoyl or 4-chloromethylbenzoyl, R_1 is not benzoyl;

(xiv) if Ar_1 is 4-methylbenzoyl, 4-bromobenzoyl or 2,4-dimethylbenzoyl, R_1 is not acetyl;

or Ar_1 is 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, or phenoxyphenyl;

or Ar_1 is biphenyl, optionally substituted 1 to 9 times by halogen, C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, C_4 - C_9 -cycloalkanoyl,

$-(CO)OR_3$, $-(CO)NR_5R_6$, $-(CO)R_8$, OR_3 , SR_4 and/or NR_5R_6 wherein the substituents C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, $-(CO)R_8$,

OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings *via* the radicals C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6

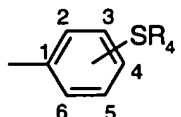
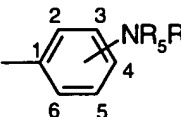
and/or R_6 with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring;

provided that

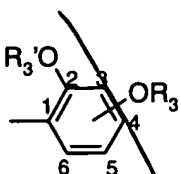
(xv) if Ar_1 is 2-biphenyl, R_1 is not benzoyl.

2. (amended) A compound of the formula I according to the claim 1, wherein

R_1 is C_2 - C_6 alkoxycarbonyl or benzyloxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{12} alkanoyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more halogen or phenyl; or R_1 is C_4 - C_6 alkenoyl, provided that the double bond is not conjugated with the carbonyl group; or R_1 is benzoyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more C_1 - C_6 alkyl or halogen;

Ar_1 is  or , each of which optionally substituted 1 to 4 times by

halogen, C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 , wherein the substituents OR_3 , SR_4 or NR_5R_6 optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings *via* the radicals R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and/or R_6 with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring;

or Ar₁ is , optionally substituted 1 to 3 times by halogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, OR₃, wherein the

substituents OR₃ and/or OR₃' optionally form a 6-membered ring *via* the radicals R₃ and/or R₃' with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring;

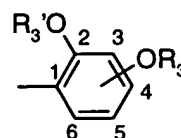
or Ar₁ is naphthyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted 1 to 7 times by halogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, OR₃, SR₄ or NR₅R₆, wherein the substituents OR₃, SR₄ or NR₅R₆ optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings *via* the radicals R₃, R₄, R₅ and/or R₆ with further substituents on the fused aromatic ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the naphthyl ring;

or Ar₁ is biphenyl, optionally substituted 1 to 9 times by halogen, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, -(CO)R₈, OR₃, SR₄ or NR₅R₆ wherein the substituents C₁-C₁₂alkyl, OR₃, SR₄ or NR₅R₆ optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings *via* the radicals C₁-C₁₂alkyl, R₃, R₄, R₅ and/or R₆ with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring.

3. (amended) A compound of the formula I according to claim 1, wherein

R₁ is C₁-C₁₂alkanoyl, benzoyl or C₂-C₆alkoxycarbonyl;

Ar₁ is R₄S-phenyl or NR₅R₆-phenyl, each of which is optionally substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, OR₃, or SR₄;

or Ar₁ is , optionally substituted by OR₃; or Ar₁ is 1-naphthyl or 2-naphthyl each of

which optionally is substituted by OR₃, SR₄ or NR₅R₆; or Ar₁ is 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, or phenoxyphenyl; or Ar₁ is biphenyl, optionally substituted by C₁-C₁₂alkyl, OR₃ and/or NR₅R₆ wherein the substituents C₁-C₁₂alkyl, OR₃, SR₄ or NR₅R₆ optionally form 5- or 6-membered rings *via* the radicals C₁-C₁₂alkyl, R₃, R₄, R₅, and/or R₆ with further substituents on the phenyl ring or with one of the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring.

Cancel claims 4-17.